IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Docket No. 34883

STATE OF IDAHO,) 2008 Unpublished Opinion No. 590
Plaintiff-Respondent,) Filed: August 7, 2008
v.) Stephen W. Kenyon, Clerk
BUCK MATTHEW PICKENS,) THIS IS AN UNPUBLISHED) OPINION AND SHALL NOT
Defendant-Appellant.) BE CITED AS AUTHORITY
)

Appeal from the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District, State of Idaho, Ada County. Hon. Deborah A. Bail, District Judge.

Judgment of conviction and unified sentence of life imprisonment, with twenty-five years determinate, for second degree murder, <u>affirmed</u>.

Molly J. Huskey, State Appellate Public Defender; Elizabeth A. Allred, Deputy Appellate Public Defender, Boise, for appellant.

Hon. Lawrence G. Wasden, Attorney General; Lori A. Fleming, Deputy Attorney General, Boise, for respondent.

PER CURIAM

Buck Matthew Pickens was charged with first degree murder, for the stabbing death of an elderly man who had befriended him. Pursuant to a plea agreement, Pickens pled guilty to an amended charge of second degree murder, I.C. §§ 18-4001, 18-4002, 18-4003(a), and was sentenced to a unified term of life imprisonment, with twenty-five years determinate. Pickens appeals from his judgment of conviction and sentence, contending that the district court abused its discretion by imposing an excessive sentence.

Where a sentence is within the statutory limits, it will not be disturbed on appeal absent an abuse of the sentencing court's discretion. *State v. Hedger*, 115 Idaho 598, 604, 768 P.2d 1331, 1337 (1989). We will not conclude on review that the sentencing court abused its discretion unless the sentence is unreasonable under the facts of the case. *State v. Brown*, 121 Idaho 385, 393, 825 P.2d 482, 490 (1992). In evaluating the reasonableness of a sentence, we

consider the nature of the offense and the character of the offender, applying our well-established standards of review. *See State v. Hernandez*, 121 Idaho 114, 117-18, 822 P.2d 1011, 1014-15 (Ct. App. 1991); *State v. Lopez*, 106 Idaho 447, 449-51, 680 P.2d 869, 871-73 (Ct. App. 1984); *State v. Toohill*, 103 Idaho 565, 568, 650 P.2d 707, 710 (Ct. App. 1982). When reviewing the length of a sentence, we consider the defendant's entire sentence. *State v. Oliver*, 144 Idaho 722, 170 P.3d 387 (2007).

Applying the foregoing standards and having reviewed the record, we conclude that the district court did not abuse its discretion by imposing the sentence. Accordingly, Pickens' judgment of conviction and sentence are affirmed.